



MEJDI TOURS

MEJDI Tours Group Departure

- Tour:** France: The Best of Provence
- Included:** 7 nights' accommodation at the following hotels or similar (double occupancy): Le Moulin de Lourmarin
1 local guide for 7 days
7 days of private bus transportation including group arrival and departure transfers
Meals listed in the itinerary: 7 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 3 dinners
Entrances, sites, and honorariums for speakers¹
Water on the bus throughout the tour
US-based customer service representatives
- Not included:** International airfare
Travel insurance-**HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**
Single Supplement-\$600
Meals not mentioned in the itinerary
Gratuities
Anything not explicitly mentioned in the included section
- Pricing²:** 8+ Paying Participants - \$2,995 Per Person

Overview:

Experience the incredible beauty, succulent cuisine, and rich culture of Southern France from a local's perspective on this 8-day small group tour Provence. Discover the unique surprises, personality, and mystery of the picturesque villages of Southern France. Explore stately renaissance castles and meander through quaint alleyways and cobblestone streets, past bubbling fountains and through terraced gardens. Take in the food, art, and architecture of life-loving and elegant Aix en Provence. Visit the casino of Monte Carlo, the Prince's palace, and the Oceanographic museum in the tiny principality of Monaco.

¹ Subject to confirmation based on availability

² Subject to change based on confirmation. This quote is valid for 2 weeks.

Itinerary:

Day 1: Arrival - Lourmarin

Arrive in Marseille Provence International Airport and transfer to the village of Lourmarin (~1 hour drive). Enjoy a **welcome dinner** this evening.

Hotel: Le Moulin de Lourmarin (D)

Day 2: Villages of the south Luberon: the best of Provence

Each village of the region boasts its own surprises, personality and mysteries. After walking through stunning Lourmarin and exploring its renaissance castle, its fountains, and quaint alleyways, we will stop to visit the terraced gardens of Lauris, before having lunch at Le Fenier, a Michelin-starred country kitchen. After a short rest, we will enjoy a country stroll among the vineyards and an “apero” by the plane-tree shaded pond in the magical village of Cucuron.

Hotel: Le Moulin de Lourmarin (B, L)

Day 3: Between two cities: Aix and Marseille

We will begin the day with a tour of life-loving and elegant Aix en Provence. We will hear of painter Paul Cézanne, Aix's beloved son and of the sweets for which the town is famed. We will explore its unique public art and visit its unusual cathedral, check out the chic shopping street and the marketplace. After a light lunch on your own, we will continue to Marseille, to explore its dramatic layout, and diverse architecture, society, and cuisine. For dinner we will enjoy a Bouillabaisse at Peron's, on the city's famed cornice.

Hotel: Le Moulin de Lourmarin (B, D)

Day 4: Where histories converge: The Alpilles, St. Remy and Avignon

We will begin the day by heading west, for a short hike in the barren hills of the Alpilles and a visit to the charming town of St. Remy de Provence. We will tour St. Remy in the footsteps of Vincent Van Gogh, who spent one of the most prolific periods of his creative life here, and had lunch in one of the town's classic bistros. From here we'll go north to a tour of Avignon, its Papal palace, ramparts and famous bridge.

Hotel: Le Moulin de Lourmarin (B, L)

Day 5: Gifts of the land: Pierrefort, Valensole, Moustiers Ste. Marie

After a free morning in Lourmarin, we will head east for a winery and lunch in the exceptional wine village of Pierrefort. From there we will continue to the lavender fields and a visit to a lavender distillery in the town of Valensole, before arriving at Moustiers Ste. Marie (~1.75 hour drive), one of the most beautiful villages in all of Europe. In the afternoon we will go down to the nearby Lac St. Marie for a boat ride and a glass of rosé.

Hotel: La Bastide de Moustiers (B, L)

Day 6: The Verdon, Grasse, and Nice

The day will begin with a drive along the Gorge du Verdon, Europe's most dramatic canyon, with stops for scenic views. We will visit Grasse, the city of perfumes, visit one of its

historical perfume factories and enjoy lunch on your own in the old town. From Grasse we will continue to the city of Nice (~2.5 hour drive), where we will tour the splendid public parks, visit the old town and Cathedral and of course walk the famous waterfront. At dinner (on own) we will experience some of Nice's extraordinary cuisine.

Hotel: Hôtel Albert 1er Nice (B)

Day 7: The Best of the Riviera

This morning we will explore Monaco, the tiny principality: the casino of Monte Carlo, the Prince's palace, the marina and the Oceanographic museum. We will return to Nice for an afternoon at leisure, followed by a final farewell dinner.

Hotel: Hôtel Albert 1er Nice (B, D)

Day 8: Departure

Transfer to the airport in Nice and depart for home today. *(B)*